

**Town of Webster
Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting – September 26, 2016**

RECEIVED

Attending: Commissioners – Frederick Bock, Paul Fiske, Richard Franas, Al Huefner and Joseph Kunkel
Staff – Mary Overholt, Conservation Agent

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Absent: Commissioners - David Audette, Beau Saad

Meeting called to order: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Basement Conference Room

Minutes

Mr. Fiske motioned to approve the minutes from Sept. 12 with the correction to the spelling of dry well. Mr. Huefner second; vote 5 in favor with Mr. Kunkel abstaining.

Notice of Intent

18 Fairfield

Frank Bicchier was representing the applicant. He submitted revised plans based on comments from the site visit. Mr. Bicchier explained that the project is for the demolition of an existing single family house, boat ramp and retaining wall. They will build a new two story four bedroom house with town water and sewer. They are removing an abutment into the water so that there will be greater flood storage. There is 600 sq. feet more flood storage with the new plan. There is a net reduction of the impervious area because they are removing the boat ramp. The impervious area calculation was adjusted to include the riprap. The full calculations are noted on the plan. The former boat ramp area will become a small beach. Chairman Franas noted that there needs to be something at the edge of the beach so that the sand will not get into the water. The applicant needs to put a 3 inch curb along the edge of the beach. There was a question as to how the applicant will deal with the land underwater once the concrete abutment is removed. There is no footing for the abutment it is all on flat loose rock. Chairman Franas noted that all extraneous material should be removed and the bottom should be maintained as level. Mr. Bicchier noted the sequence of construction. The retaining wall will be done first, and then they will do the house demolition. The silt fence will go up before any construction commences.

Chairman Franas asked if there were any comments from the public. Gloria Ricker a neighbor explained that water backs up into the driveway at 18 Fairfield. She is afraid with the new configuration that water will go onto her property. Mr. Bicchier stated that he will raise the slope so that water does not flow between the two lots. The project is graded so that the water will not go to the Lake. Mr. Huefner asked if the water stands in the street. Ms. Ricker indicated in the affirmative and that the water was sometimes ankle deep. The town needs to do something about the drain. Mr. Bock will talk to the Town Administrator to make sure the highway dept. does something about the drain.

Mr. Fiske motioned to close the hearing. Mr. Huefner second; vote all in favor.

Mr. Fiske motioned to issue an Order of Conditions 18 Fairfield St. with the standard conditions
Mr. Huefner second; vote all in favor.

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92 Point Breeze

The applicant Mr. Chappell presented a more detailed plan. An existing boathouse is in need of repair. He would like to remove the roof and knock down walls that are in need of repair. He will put in a new retaining wall. All the work will be done inland from shoreline. The high water line is 481 and the proposed beach is at 482 ft. elevation. There will be a straw wattle silt fence. Chairman Franas stated that the applicant should make sure that material does not leach into the resource area by putting a curb between the beach and the water line, so there is no washout and the wave action does not disturb the beach. The applicant should make a notation on plan to indicate that there will be granite curbing. The question was raised if a turbidity curtain was necessary. Mr. Kunkel stated they should have a spill kit on site but that no turbidity curtain was needed. Chairman Franas indicated that the hearing should be continued for a change of plans, a DEP number and abutter slips. Chairman Franas indicated that Ms. Overholt should check to make sure a spill kit is on the list of conditions.

Mr. Huefner motioned to continue the hearing to Oct. 17. Mr. Fiske second; vote all in favor.

Discussion

Maureen Bennett 19 Mark Ave.

Ms. Bennet has recently purchased this house. She has 174 ft. of shoreline. There is a long wall along the edge of the water that is made of large stones that are eroding into the water. The wall is about 3 feet high. Ms. Bennet would like to neaten up sides and keep erosion from continuing. She was looking for guidance as to what the Commission would recommend. Chairman Franas stated that we don't tell people what to do, but provide guidance.

Point Breeze Rip Rap

The Commission made a site inspection on Saturday. The footing for old wall is still there. They took out old wall and put riprap on top of the old stone wall so it is not infiltrating the Lake. Chairman Franas did not see anything that was an issue or concern. Mr. Kunkel stated they moved the wall two feet back from the water. Mr. Huefner stated that they should have come before the Commission with the change in work. The Contractor will provide detail of how the wall was built for the file.

Mr. Fiske motioned to accept the wall as amended according to plans that will be submitted. Kunkel second; all in favor.

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Discussion

Burrillville power plant

The Burrillville Power plant will be gas and diesel, 9 million gallons. The letter should be forwarded to the Town Administrator to have the Selectmen take a look at it and give guidance if the Commission should take a position on it.

Mr. Fiske motioned that the letter should be forwarded to the Selectmen. Huefner second; vote all in favor.

Vice Chair Position

At the last meeting the Commission decided that since Mr. Kunkel offered to be Vice Chair and he seemed best able to fill the position that he should be chosen. Because he was not there last meeting the vote was postponed until this meeting. Mr. Fiske motioned to elect Mr. Kunkel as Vice Chair. Mr. Bock second; vote all in favor.

39 Bates Grove Rd.

Ms. Overholt reported on the site visit. The contractor is going to put cobblestones at the bottom of the driveway. The one gutter has been fixed so that there is no Y. Both gutters drain into a large stone drywell installed along the top of the bank. The engineer will submit as built plans showing the drainage installed. CME recommended that the straw wattles remain and be replaced where needed to prevent erosion down the steep sides of the bank. The Commission stated they would like to see further measures, specifically they would like to see the bank hydro seeded to further stabilize it. They also want to find out from the Building Dept. if there are any safety requirements for the top of the steep bank such as a fence.

Ms. Overholt noted that 7 Ernest St. the neighboring property had significant erosion issues. The Commission recommended writing them a letter.

The Town Meeting is Oct. 17 which is the date of our next meeting. The Conservation meeting will be moved to Oct. 24.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Next Meeting Date: Oct. 24, 2016 Basement Conference Room

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Overholt
Conservation Agent

All correspondence, applications, plans and reports can be viewed at the Office of Planning & Economic Development, 350 Main St, Webster MA 01570

Conservation Commission Approval:


Chairman

Vice Chair Date: 10-24-16